

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5658, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MS. WATERS OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of title XII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 12____. ESTABLISHMENT OF IRAQI DISPLACEMENT CO-**
2 **ORDINATOR.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within
5 the Executive Office of the President a position to
6 be known as the “Iraqi Displacement Coordinator”
7 (in this Act referred to as the “Coordinator”), who
8 shall report directly to the President on the state of
9 the Iraqi displacement situation. Not later than 30
10 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
11 President shall appoint an individual to serve as the
12 Coordinator.

13 (2) IDENTIFICATION AND COORDINATION.—The
14 Coordinator shall identify programs that address the
15 humanitarian needs and requirements of displaced
16 Iraqis, and shall review, provide advice, support, and
17 coordinate with the heads of relevant departments
18 and agencies of the United States Government, the
19 Government of Iraq, countries hosting displaced

1 Iraqis in the region, the United Nations, and other
2 involved nongovernmental organizations (NGO's)
3 and international organizations (IO's).

4 (3) DUTIES.—The Coordinator shall be respon-
5 sible for—

6 (A) leading the United States Government
7 effort to respond to the crisis confronting dis-
8 placed Iraqis, including refugees and internally
9 displaced persons;

10 (B) ensuring to the greatest extent pos-
11 sible that the rights and legal protections of
12 displaced Iraqis are respected and enforced by
13 host countries;

14 (C) discouraging violations in the spirit of
15 the 1967 Protocol to the 1951 Convention Re-
16 lating to the Status of Refugees by any country
17 hosting displaced Iraqis, including a country
18 that is not a party to the Protocol or Conven-
19 tion;

20 (D) pursuing coordination and support for
21 host countries of displaced Iraqis, recognizing
22 that humanitarian action is non-political by na-
23 ture;

24 (E) ensuring proper management, imple-
25 mentation, transparency, and oversight by

1 agencies of the United States Government re-
2 sponsible for assistance projects for displaced
3 Iraqis;

4 (F) resolving policy and program disputes
5 among departments and agencies of the United
6 States Government with respect to assistance
7 projects for displaced Iraqis;

8 (G) reporting directly to the President with
9 respect to assistance for displaced Iraqis; and

10 (H) encourage to the greatest extent pos-
11 sible the Government of Iraq to authorize and
12 fully support a cabinet-level ministry position to
13 support displaced Iraqis.

14 (4) LONG-TERM PLANNING FOR DISPLACED
15 IRAQIS.—

16 (A) COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY.—The Co-
17 ordinator shall design, in consultation with con-
18 cerned governments in the region, a comprehen-
19 sive strategy to address the needs of displaced
20 Iraqis. The strategy should recognize the need
21 for immediate support for the most vulnerable
22 displaced Iraqis, as well as promote durable,
23 long-term solutions to the displacement crisis.
24 The strategy should recognize the unique needs

1 in each of Iraq's 18 provinces, and the needs of
2 countries hosting Iraqi refugees.

3 (B) PLANNING FOR THE RETURN OF DIS-
4 PLACED IRAQIS.—The Coordinator shall encour-
5 age the Government of Iraq, with the coordina-
6 tion of the United States Government, the
7 United Nations, appropriate foreign govern-
8 ments, and other interested parties to develop a
9 long-term plan for the voluntary, dignified, and
10 safe return of displaced Iraqis to their homes.
11 The plan should address issues of return, repa-
12 triation, and reintegration of displaced Iraqis,
13 including providing for proper procedures for
14 settling property disputes. Long-term planning
15 for returns shall not interfere with humani-
16 tarian assistance efforts for displaced Iraqis.

17 (b) REPORTING.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
19 the date of the enactment of this Act and every 120
20 days thereafter, the Coordinator shall submit to the
21 President and Congress a report on United States
22 status of assistance efforts for displaced Iraqis.

23 (2) CONTENTS.—The report required under
24 this subsection shall include the following informa-
25 tion:

1 (A) A description of the strategy required
2 under subsection (a)(4).

3 (B) An assessment of the progress of the
4 strategy required under subsection (a)(4), and
5 any steps taken toward implementation of the
6 strategy.

7 (C) The distribution of duties and respon-
8 sibilities regarding assistance projects for dis-
9 placed Iraqis among the agencies of the United
10 States Government.

11 (D) An assessment of assistance efforts for
12 displaced Iraqis implemented by all relevant ac-
13 tors, including the United States Government,
14 the Iraqi Government, foreign governments, the
15 United Nations, international organizations,
16 and nongovernmental organizations.

17 (E) An evaluation of the Government of
18 Iraq's ability to implement assistance for dis-
19 placed Iraqis in an effective and equitable man-
20 ner.

21 (F) An overall evaluation of the humani-
22 tarian conditions confronting Iraq and displaced
23 Iraqis, and the various regional impacts of their
24 presence.

1 (G) An assessment of the budgetary needs
2 of the agencies United States Government in
3 meeting the goals of the comprehensive strat-
4 egy.

5 (H) Recommendations for preventing fu-
6 ture displacement in Iraq.

7 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS.—There is author-
8 ized to be appropriated such funds as may be necessary
9 for fiscal years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 for the
10 establishment and operating costs of the Iraqi Displace-
11 ment Coordinator within the Department of State.

12 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

13 (1) DISPLACED IRAQIS.—The term “displaced
14 Iraqis” means Iraqis who have become refugees or
15 internally displaced persons.

16 (2) INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSON.—The
17 term “internally displaced person” means a person
18 who has been forced or obliged to flee or to leave
19 such person’s home or place of last habitual resi-
20 dence, in particular as a result of or in order to
21 avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of gen-
22 eralized violence, violations of human rights, or nat-
23 ural or human-made disasters, and who have not
24 crossed an internationally-recognized state border.

1 (3) NON-REFOULEMENT.—The term “non-
2 refoulement” has the meaning given such term in
3 the 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the
4 Status of Refugees.

5 (4) REFUGEE.—The term “refugee” means a
6 person who is outside the country of such person’s
7 nationality or, in the case of a person having no na-
8 tionality, is outside the country in which such person
9 last habitually resided, and who is unable or unwill-
10 ing to return to, and is unable or unwilling to avail
11 himself or herself of the protection of, that country
12 because of persecution or a well-founded fear of per-
13 secution on account of race, religion, nationality,
14 membership in a particular social group, or political
15 opinion.

